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August 9, 1999

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Mr. William Kennard
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I would like to write to you to express my feelings concerning the proposal of additional low power FM signals.

As I understand the situation, the addition of low power drop-ins have the real possibility of interference with existing FM signals and the loss of local service to communities that depend on local news and information. This greatly concerns me and my fellow broadcasters throughout the country.

I am also concerned about the problems that will arise from the alterations of adjacent channel spacing when it comes to the development of IBOC digital radio.

Ironically, the need for the low power FM signals would be in populated urban areas, however very few if any positions would be available in these markets.

I would urge you and your fellow commissioners to give serious consideration to placing any low-power FM actions on hold until and unless these technical issues are resolved and rules are adopted for digital audio broadcasting. American listeners depend on local broadcasters for important local news, weather, emergency bulletins, public affairs and other programming. We should not be putting access to that programming at risk by bringing on-line a new, untested and technically infeasible radio service that seems driven less by good public policy and more by an interest in placating pirate radio operators.

Thank you for your consideration of these views.

Sincerely,


Edwin M. Doody
V/P General manager

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